

12-4-18

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I am writing to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) and to oppose the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC’s September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05- 311.

My name is Abby Evans and I currently work at the Telecommunications Board of Northern Kentucky. As a college student learning the media world, working at TBNK has not only expanded my skills in media production, but the local government and overall environment of life here in Kenton County. We’ve been able to touch so many people across so many walks of life with not only sharing their story or the information they want to educate people on but allowing residents to be able to creatively express their right to freedom of speech. I believe that TBNK does a great service to the community by coming into local government meetings and allowing cities to be completely transparent with their residents. The cities we have done this in show an immense amount of appreciation for what we do.

The elimination of PEG channels would hurt every citizen, whether they realize it or not. For cities not being able to afford PEG channels they would lose communication with and the trust of their residents. It lose my local access channels would be an insane thought, it’s a right every city should have. I grew up in Nelson County, KY, a central Kentucky county with small towns, and we relied on watching our PEG channels for updates in our city, whether they be government or simply entertainment. To not have that access, and to be stripped away from that information, would hinder the progress of the community. *Everything* starts with local government. Don’t make the choice to take away a crucial part to the local government system.

Our local Public, Educational, and Governmental, (PEG) Access channels provide a wide range of local programming about our community, which is a valuable service to Northern Kentucky residents, community organizations, and viewers. Our local PEG TV studio at the Telecommunications Board of Northern Kentucky, also provides access to a professional studio, editing and field equipment for local residents, schools, and community organizations, who

would not otherwise have access to such facilities, as well as much needed training and guidance.

Local PEG programming includes coverage of high school and college football and basketball games, swimming and diving and other sports, as well as many community events. The PEG channels air numerous local government meetings every month, as well as Northern Kentucky election programs and results. The channels also broadcast local music and entertainment, documentaries, and public affairs shows, as well as information about local community service organizations and agencies, and issues of interest to Northern Kentucky.

Promoting such diversity of views and information through local PEG programming was one of congress' specific stated intents of the Cable Act. The FCC's proposed FNPRM goes against this stated intent, and would force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, which would cripple and very likely eliminate the PEG channels in most communities across the country, since most cities will not be able to afford the loss in fees. The loss of franchise fees would also eliminate the main source of operational funding for PEG channels in most communities. This has never been the way the law worked for decades and was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and urge the FCC to protect PEG channels and funding in our community and others by choosing not to adopt the Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making.

Sincerely,

Abby Evans